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ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.:  
062891.0990

SERIAL NO.  
09/750,311



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Issue Application of: Fulvio Arecco et al.  
Serial No.: 09/750,311  
Filed: December 29, 2000  
Group No.: 2633  
Examiner: David S. Kim  
Notice of Allowance Mailed: December 8, 2006  
Confirmation No.: 6738  
Title: AUTOPROTECTED OPTICAL COMMUNICATION RING  
NETWORK

**Mail Stop ISSUE FEE**  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY EXPRESS MAIL**

I hereby certify that the attached Issue Fee Transmittal (PTOL-85) ( one (1) page) and Comments on Allowance (one (1) page) are being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 C.F.R. 1.10 on this 6th day of March 2006 addressed to Mail Stop ISSUE FEE, Commissioner of Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

*Willie Jiles*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Willie Jiles

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Dear Sir:

**RESPONSE TO REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE**

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's allowance of Claims 36-46. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.104, Applicants respectfully issue a statement commenting on the Examiner's reasons for allowance. Applicants respectfully disagree with the Examiner's reasons for allowance to the extent that they are inconsistent with applicable case law, statutes, and regulations. Furthermore, Applicants do not admit to any characterization or limitation of the claims or to any characterization of a reference by the Examiner, particularly any that are inconsistent with the language of the claims considered in their entirety and including all of their constituent limitations.

Respectfully submitted,  
BAKER BOTTS L.L.P.  
Attorneys for Applicants

Barton E. Showalter  
Registration No. 38,302

Date: March 6, 2006

CUSTOMER NO. 05073